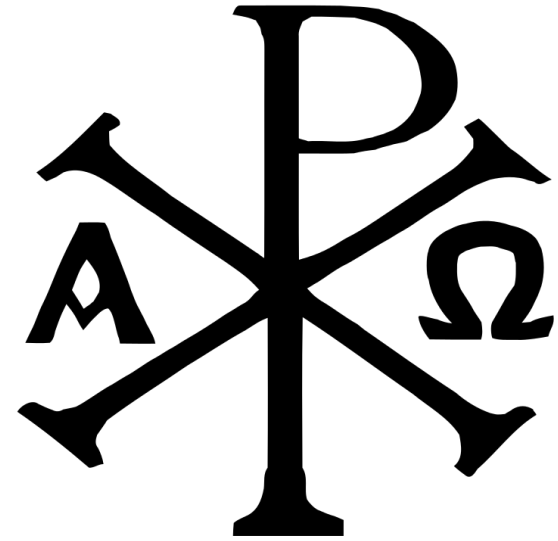


If we die with
Christ
we shall live with Him.



If we are faithful
to the end
we shall reign with Him.

OUR CONDOLENCES

On behalf of the parish communities of St. Frances Cabrini, St. Mary Magdalen, St. Constance, and St. Alfred, we extend our sincere condolences to you, your beloved's family, and friends.

At the death of a Christian, whose life of faith was begun in the waters of baptism and strengthened at the Eucharistic table, the Church intercedes on behalf of the deceased because of its confident belief that death is not the end, nor does it break the bonds forged in life. The Church also ministers to the sorrowing and consoles them in the funeral rites with the comforting word of God and the sacrament of the Eucharist. (Order of Christian Funeral, #4)

We invite you to review the material for the celebration of a funeral Mass. Please feel free to call us at the parish office if you have any questions or concerns:

St. Frances Cabrini: 313-381-5601
St. Mary Magdalen: 313-381-8566
St. Constance: 313-291-4050
St. Alfred: 313-291-6464

Sincerely,

Pastoral Staff of St. Frances Cabrini
St. Mary Magdalen
St. Constance
St. Alfred

Prayer for the Faithful Departed

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and Let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen

Prayer in Time of Bereavement

Dearest Jesus, who wept at the death of your friend and taught that they who mourn shall be comforted, grant us the comfort of your presence in our loss.

Send Your Holy Spirit to direct us
lest we make hasty or foolish decisions.

Send Your Spirit to give us courage
lest through fear we recoil from living.

Send Your Spirit to bring us your peace
lest bitterness, false guilt, or regret take root in our hearts.

The Lord has given.
The Lord has taken away.
Blessed be the name of the Lord.

Amen.

Musical Selections Continued

Recessional Hymns

- Alleluia! Sing to Jesus
- Christ Be Our Light
- Eternal Father, Strong to Save
- How Great Thou Art
- I Know My Redeemer Lives
- Let There Be Peace on Earth
- Precious Lord, Take My Hand
- On Eagles Wings
- Sing With All the Saints in Glory



Planning the Funeral Liturgy

Enclosed in this packet you will find:

- A Selection Sheet to write down your choices for the liturgy and additional information about your loved one. Please complete the Selection Sheet at home and when finished, bring with you to the Church for the planning of Mass.
- General information regarding Catholic funerals (pgs. 4-5)
- The Old Testament readings for Mass (pgs. 6-8)
- The New Testament readings for Mass (pgs. 9-11)
- Prayers of the Faithful (pg. 12)
- The Musical Selections for Mass (pgs. 13-14)

Readings

Please choose one reading from The Old Testament and one reading from the New Testament. The Responsorial Psalm is chosen by the organist and the Gospel is chosen by the priest presider. Please also consider who you would like to proclaim the two readings and the Prayers of the Faithful.

Hymns

Please choose from the hymns provided in this packet. The hymns are sung during the procession, the preparation of the gifts for Holy Communion, the distribution of Holy Communion, and the recessional.

Prayers of the Faithful

The Prayers of the Faithful can be read by one or two people, or the priest if necessary.

General Information Regarding Catholic Funerals

A Catholic funeral consists of three parts, each of which may occur at different times. The first part is the Vigil service, which takes place at the wake. Next is the Funeral Mass, which is the traditional funeral ceremony held at the Church. Finally, there is the Rite of Committal at the cemetery.

Regarding Cremation

Cremation has in recent years been deemed an acceptable practice by the Catholic Church. A proper Catholic funeral involves cremation that does not take place until after the funeral mass has been celebrated. Once the family has received the ashes, the cremation urn is to be buried or placed in a mausoleum/columbarium.

Ashes may not be scattered.

Vigil Service

The Vigil Service usually takes place during the period of visitation and viewing at the funeral home. It is a time to remember the life of the deceased and to commend him/her to God. In prayer, we ask God to console us in our grief and give us strength to support one another.

The Vigil Service typically takes the form of a Service of the Word with readings from Sacred Scripture accompanied by reflection and prayers. Although a Service of the Word is the norm, recitation of the Rosary may take place instead.

It is most appropriate when family and friends are gathered for visitation, to offer time for recalling the life of the deceased. For this reason, eulogies are encouraged to be done at the funeral home during visitation or at the Vigil Service.

Musical Selections

Please choose one hymn from each of the four sections.

Entrance Hymns

- Amazing Grace
- Abide With Me
- Be Not Afraid
- Here I Am Lord
- Hosea
- I Have Heard the Voice of Jesus
- I Have Loved You
- To Jesus Christ, Our Sovereign King

Offertory Hymns

- Ave Maria
- Blest Are They
- Hail Mary, Gentle Woman
- Jerusalem, My Happy Home
- Prayer of St. Francis
- The King of Love My Shepherd Is
- What Wondrous Love is This
- You Are Near

Communion Hymns

- Be Still My Soul
- Eye Has Not Seen
- Gift of Finest Wheat
- I Am the Bread of Life
- In the Breaking of the Bread
- Panis Angelicus
- We Remember
- You Are Mine

(Continued on next page)

Prayers of the Faithful

For _____ who in baptism was given the promise of eternal life, that s/he may now be admitted to the company of saints.
We pray to the Lord.

For our brother/sister who ate the body of Christ, the bread of life, that s/he may be raised up on that last day.
We pray to the Lord.

For our deceased relatives and friends and for all who have helped us, that they may have the reward of their goodness.
We pray to the Lord.

For all who have fallen asleep in the hope of rising again, that they may see God face to face.
We pray to the Lord.

For the family and friends of _____ that they may be consoled in their grief and loss by the Lord, who wept even at the death of his friend, Lazarus.
We pray to the Lord.

For all of us assembled here to worship in faith, that we may be gathered together again in God's kingdom.
We pray to the Lord.

Funeral Mass

The funeral liturgy is the central liturgical celebration of the Christian community for the deceased. When one of its members dies, the Church encourages the celebration of the funeral liturgy at a Mass. When Mass cannot be celebrated, a funeral liturgy outside Mass can be celebrated in the funeral home.

At the funeral liturgy, the Church gathers with the family and friends of the deceased to give praise and thanks to God for Christ's victory over sin and death, to commend the deceased to God's tender mercy and compassion, and to see strength in the proclamation of the Paschal Mystery. The funeral liturgy, therefore, is an act of worship, and not merely an expression of grief.

We recognize that many times at Catholic funeral Masses there are people present who are not Catholic or Catholic but no longer practicing. For the reception of Holy Communion, we ask that you either come forward with your arms crossed over your chest to receive a blessing or remain in your pews to pray for the repose of the soul of your family member or friend.

Rite of Committal (Burial or Interment)

The Rite of Committal, the conclusion of the funeral rite, is the final act of the community of faith in caring for the body of its deceased member. It should normally be celebrated at the place of committal, that is, beside the open grave or place of interment. In committing the body to its resting place, the community expresses the hope that, with all those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith, the deceased awaits the glory of the resurrection. The Rite of Committal is an expression of the communion that exists between the Church on earth and the Church in heaven: the deceased passes with the farewell prayers of the community of believers into the welcoming company of those who need faith no longer but see God face-to-face. It is a general practice that the funeral home directors conduct the committal service.

Selections for the First Reading

Taken from The Old Testament. Please choose one from the following four options, and mark on the selection form.

1. A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes

There is an appointed time for everything. And there is a time for every event under heaven. A time to give birth and a time to die; A time to plant and a time to uproot what is planted.

A time to kill and a time to heal; A time to tear down and a time to build up. A time to weep and a time to laugh; A time to mourn and a time to dance.

A time to throw stones and a time to gather stones; A time to embrace and a time to shun embracing. A time to search and a time to give up as lost; A time to keep and a time to throw away.

A time to tear apart and a time to sew together; A time to be silent and a time to speak. A time to love and a time to hate; A time for war and a time for peace.

What profit is there to the worker from that in which he toils? I have seen the task which God has given the sons of men with which to occupy themselves.

He has made everything appropriate in its time He has also set eternity in their heart, yet so that man will not find out the work which God has done from the beginning even to the end.

The Word of the Lord.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-11

4. A reading from the Second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

Beloved:

Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David: such is my gospel, for which I am suffering, even to the point of chains, like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. Therefore, I bear with everything for the sake of those who are chosen, so that they too may obtain the salvation that is Christ Jesus, together with eternal glory. This saying is trustworthy: If we have died with him, we shall also live with him; if we persevere, we shall also reign with him. But if we deny him, he will deny us. If we are unfaithful, he remains faithful, for he cannot deny himself.

The Word of the Lord.

2 Timothy 2:8-13

5. A reading from the First Letter of Saint John

Beloved:

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. Yet so are we. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

The Word of the Lord.

1 John 3:1-2

2. A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and Sisters:

Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life. For a dead person has been absolved from sin. If, then, we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him. We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more; death no longer has power over him.

The Word of the Lord.

Romans 6:3-4, 8-9

3. A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and Sisters:

No one lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself. For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. For this is why Christ died and came to life, that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God; for it is written: "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bend before me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then each of us shall give an account of himself to God.

The Word of the Lord.

Romans 14:7-9, 10c-12

2. A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will provide for all peoples. On this mountain he will destroy the veil that veils all peoples, the web that is woven over all nations; he will destroy death forever. The Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces; the reproach of his people he will remove from the whole earth; for the Lord has spoken. On that day it will be said: "Behold our God, to whom we looked to save us! This is the Lord for whom we looked; let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!"

The Word of the Lord.

Isaiah 25:6a, 7-9

3. A reading from the Book of Proverbs

When one finds a worthy wife, her value is far beyond pearls. Her husband, entrusting his heart to her, has an unfailing prize. She brings him good, and not evil, all the days of her life. She obtains wool and flax and works with loving hands. She puts her hands to the distaff, and her fingers ply the spindle. She reaches out her hands to the poor and extends her arms to the needy. Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting; the woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Give her a reward for her labors, and let her works praise her at the city gates.

The Word of the Lord

Proverbs 31:10-31

4. A reading from the Book of Wisdom

The souls of the just are in the hand of God, and no torment shall touch them. They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead; and their passing away was thought an affliction and their going forth from us, utter destruction. But they are in peace.

For if before men, indeed, they be punished, yet is their hope full of immortality; chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed because God tried them and found them worthy of himself. As gold in the furnace, he proved them, and as sacrificial offerings, he took them to himself. In the time of their visitation, they shall shine, and shall dart about as sparks through stubble; they shall judge nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord shall be their King forever. Those who trust in him shall understand truth, and the faithful shall abide with him in love: Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones, and His care is with His elect.

The Word of the Lord

Wisdom 3:1-9



Selections for the Second Reading

Taken from The New Testament. Please choose one from the following five options, and mark on the selection form.

1. A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and Sisters:

Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For Christ, while we were still helpless, yet died at the appointed time for the ungodly. Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person, though perhaps for a good person, one might even find the courage to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us. How much more then, since we are now justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath. Indeed, if, while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, how much more, once reconciled, will we be saved by his life? Not only that, but we also boast of God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The Word of the Lord.

Romans 5:5-11